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LB 149

Brown's amendment is fairly straightforward and is not a complicated amendment. But, Senator Bohlke, I'd like to take this opportunity and just have you listen, and Senator Wehrbein as well. As I speak to members off the floor, I think that there's some feeling that this is a \$22 million bill and that if you pass this you're going to spend \$22 million more in state aid, and that's not the case and I want to try to put it in "non-Education Committee" language and somebody who, if I can understand it, anybody else can, I hope. But what we've got with 149 is last year, '98-99, we have \$591 million that we're going to spend of state aid to schools in the form of state aid. We started issuing checks on \$591 million. What happens is that in December, when we did the calculation, panic hits because it shows up on the printout that they're only going to get \$574 million, and so all of a sudden everybody's going, I'm losing all this money. (LB) 149 comes in and says, well, we're going to get rid of this respin and we're going to change the date back a little bit. And what 149 really does is, once you do all this formula change and your printout shows that we're really spending...this is a \$3 million change from what we spent last year; that the number now is going to be \$594 million and not a \$22 million change. And so, when people sit here and look at their printouts, I think there's a lot of confusion as to what actually the increase amount of money is. You're not talking about \$22 million of expenditures; you're, in effect, talking about 3. Now, the changes in the printout, Senator Bohlke, I assume there's a lot of other reasons for change. Could be...motor vehicles could be part of it, and a few occasions it's...you're not going to take in a whole year of change of valuation because that's already been done. But the motor vehicles have been put back in, particularly into their...their resources that you've roughly put in, well, I don't know what, \$48 million of motor vehicles are going back into the resource side, and that's the reason the pie's being cut a little bit different. I assume what this amendment does, if you had to explain it to somebody what does 149 do, it eliminates redoing and coming up with last year's low number of \$574 million, and that that's what caused all the panic. That would...that would be eliminated through 149. The other part is, and I think Senator Brown talked about that a little bit, that I want to throw out there and I'm going to try to put it in my terms and I would hope that either Senator Wehrbein or